

77. (New) The microparticles of claim 76 wherein said protection protein is derived from the group of polyimmunoglobulin receptors consisting of human, rat, mouse, rabbit, bovine, and combinations thereof.

78. (New) The transgenic plant or plant cell of claim 72 wherein said multimeric protein comprises a protection protein derived from a polyimmunoglobulin receptor.

79. (New) The transgenic plant or plant cell of claim 78 wherein said protection protein is derived from the group of polyimmunoglobulin receptors consisting of human, rat, mouse, rabbit, bovine, and combinations thereof.

80. (New) An immunoglobulin comprising a protection protein, said protection protein derived from a polyimmunoglobulin receptor selected from the group consisting of human, rat, mouse, rabbit, bovine, and combinations thereof.

81. (New) A composition comprising a protection protein or nucleotide sequence encoding the same, said protection protein derived from a polyimmunoglobulin receptor selected from the group consisting of human, rat, mouse, rabbit, bovine, and combinations thereof.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully ask entry and consideration of new claims 74-81 despite the absence of a first action in this case. Because these claims are not offered in response to an office action, they are not, and cannot possibly be construed as, amendments for reasons related to patentability. Upon entry, claims 54-81 will be pending. The new claims are all directed in some fashion to "protection proteins" derived from polyimmunoglobulin receptors ("pIgRs"). The new claims find support, *e.g.*, in claims 1-53 as originally filed, page 7, lines 26 et seq. of the specification, and claims 1-53 of commonly-owned US Patent 6,303,341, the underlying application of which priority is claimed in the instant case. No new matter is believed to be introduced by these amendments.

Please charge deposit account 50-1273 for the appropriate amount of any fees that may be due in connection with this submission.

Respectfully submitted,

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